

REMARKS

Applicant has analyzed the Office Action mailed November 22, 2004. Claims 1-15 and 16-30 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 11, 16, 20, 29, and 30 are rejected. Claims 2, 4-10, 12-15, and 17-19 been objected to.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 17, 20 and 30 have been amended. Claims 16 and 29 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 21-28 have been withdrawn from consideration without prejudice. No new matter has been added with the amendments. Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to an apparatus for partitioning moving picture data comprising a first quantizing unit for first-quantizing a received video signal and outputting a first-quantized signal, and a second quantizing unit for second-quantizing the first-quantized signal and partitioning the first-quantized signal into a preceding part and a succeeding part.

Other aspects and variations of the present invention will be discussed, as relevant, below.

Kleihorst reference number was cited in error throughout the Office Action as US 5,619,501, which has been corrected below as reference US 6,615,335.

Kleihorst (US 6,615,335) is directed to a method and apparatus for compressing information in a fixed size memory. DCT blocks of an image are hierarchically quantized. Successive memory layers have a decreasing number of memory locations. Every time data is applied to memory, its less significant data pieces will have to compete with corresponding data pieces of previously stored data.

Kim (US 6,055,272) is directed to a run length encoder for encoding DCT coefficients obtained in a DCT, a quantization, and a scanning steps in block units to output a encoded symbol, and outputting a predetermined symbol if the obtained DCT coefficients of the block unit are all zero.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 2, 4-10 based on informalities. The Examiner has suggested claim 2 element "first inverse-quantizer and the second quantizer" should be amended to "first quantizer and the second inverse quantizer". Applicant has amended claim 2 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully asserts that the objection to claim 2 has been overcome and that amended claim 2 pass to allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that claims 4-10 by virtue of their dependency on amended claim 2 pass to allowance.

The Examiner has objected to claim 30 based on informalities. The Examiner has suggested claim 30 element "first inverse-quantization to output, ... based on a second quantization" should be amended to "second inverse-quantization to output, ..., based on a first quantization". Applicant has amended claim 30 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully asserts that the objection to claim 30 has been overcome and that claim 30 pass to allowance.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 16, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleihorst et al (US 6,615,335). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

A rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 requires both (1) a suggestion of the prior art to make and use the claimed device and that (2) one skilled in the art would be reasonably expected to make and use the compositions or device, or in carrying out the claimed process. In the instant case, the cited references, either alone or in combination, meet neither of these requirements.

Claims 1, 3, 16, and 20

Claim 16 has been canceled without prejudice and therefore the rejection is moot with respect to claim 16. The 103 rejection will be addressed with respect to amended claim 1. Amended claim 1 has been incorporated with elements from claim 17 that the

Examiner has indicated are novel. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is allowable.

Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 3 is allowable based on virtue of its dependency on amended independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully asserts that amended claim 20 is allowable by virtue of its dependency on objected to claim 17 which has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim 11

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleihorst et. al in view of Kim et al. (US 6,055,272). Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the novel elements of claim 17. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 29-30

Claims 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleihorst et. al in view of Kim et al. (US 6,055,272). Claims 29 has been cancelled without prejudice and therefore the rejection for claim 29 is moot. Claim 30 has been written into independent form and amended to include novel elements of claim 17. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 30 is in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4-10, 12-15, and 17-19. Claims 2, 12 and 17 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, amended claims 2, 12, and 17 are now in condition for allowance. Claims 4-10, 13-15, 18, and 19 are in condition for allowance by virtue of their dependence on the respective amended claims 2, 12, and 17.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present amendment places claims 1-15, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 30 of the present application in condition for allowance. Applicant has reviewed the cited references and believes that the claims of the present invention are allowable over the cited references individually or in combination with the other cited references. No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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